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Left: A mock Facebook page and the official Facebook logo. Right: An illustration of the "connecting" power of Facebook (Logo courtesy of [rmisiog.tripod.com](http://rmisiog.tripod.com), photos courtesy of [www.techcrunch.com/2005/09/07/85-of-college-students-use-focebook](http://www.techcrunch.com/2005/09/07/85-of-college-students-use-focebook), [pocer.utm.edu/photo\\_upload/2005-09-27/cover-focebook](http://pocer.utm.edu/photo_upload/2005-09-27/cover-focebook).)



## Internet Privacy? Sounding off on *Facebook*, et al.

### The Administration Responds

By Kara Marxer, Staff Writer

The recent Facebook controversy has prompted many students to change the privacy settings on their online webpages and blogs. But why did the administration suddenly decide to get involved in a student forum? "The most important issue regarding Facebook and other similar sites is one of personal safety and security. Nationwide, there are reports of these sites being used by criminals to get personal information, and on our campus there have been a few reported incidents of Facebook being used by either other students or someone off campus to harass students," says Dean of Students John Keller.

The administration's goal is not to "bust" students, but to enforce policy. "The role of institutions of higher education is to educate students both in and out of the classroom, not "bust" them," says Keller. "That said, some students like all other segments of the human population, sometimes engage in activities that are either illegal or

in violation of institutional policies, and it is the obligation of the institution to hold students accountable for these violations. This is a "hot" topic across the country right now and will continue to be as these technologies evolve. Also, faculty at SJC and across the country have been using technology to find and deal with issues of academic dishonesty for several years, so it is important to note that use of technology as a means of policy enforcement is certainly not new to colleges."

"If you post something on a public site you have given up your "right" to privacy. I fully understand that students want something they post to be just between them and their "friends," but posting a photo on the internet is not the same as sending a photo to a friend through the mail. There should be no expectation of privacy when you put something in the public domain," Keller adds.

Because SJC is a private campus, what Americans

consider "normal" First Amendment free speech rights do not exist here. "I don't believe this is an issue of censorship, but rather whether a student can publicly violate a policy and logically expect no ramifications for their behavior. Actions can have consequences...they don't always, but they can, and the College reserves the right to make that judgment on an individual basis. I think the important point is that we hope that our students will use technology responsibly and thoughtfully," states Keller. As for any judicial consequences for posting illicit pictures, the college has not taken any measures against non-employees.

Director of Housing and Resident Life Michele Gunkelman had no comment for the Observer about the recent Resident Assistant firings. "It is unfortunate that rumors fly around this campus as they do. Because RAs are employees of the College, and anything relating to their employment is

confidential, I am unable to answer this question. The RAs all have a right to their personnel files remaining confidential and as an employer I must respect and protect that right," Gunkelman says. Likewise, the administration had no comment about the blog comments publicly posted by Area Director Kenneth Patricio.

The future of this controversy is not likely to be smooth. In the meantime, however, students are encouraged to take their concerns to Keller. "Although I know that this "controversy" has been narrowly focused on policy violations, the issue of how we as individuals and a society use technology is very complex. We have no interest in trampling the rights of students, but we do have responsibilities as an institution that must be fulfilled. I would ask that students consider carefully the full range of issues involved, and hope that they will feel free to make suggestions on how we might achieve a balanced approach to the problem."

### Invasion Of Privacy?

By David Spencer, Contributor

Much has been made around campus about the "Facebook alcohol picture scandal," and how a few students have been written up or removed from leadership positions for photos showing them drinking. As much as this will make people disregard what I have to say about the issue, I must confess that I have never had a drink of anything alcoholic in my life. I've never wanted to and I don't plan on doing it. However, I can't help but be bothered by the reaction a lot of students have had towards the Facebook punishments. One of the RA's in my dorm, Albert Santacruz, was removed from his RA position and I heard that he has to now move to another dorm. Now, I was naturally upset when I heard about Albert because he's a good guy and I like him, but at the same time he is not 21 and RA's are not supposed to drink in the dorms

(and for good reason). As much as many of you will scoff at this, I've seen plenty of students post pictures of parties where they are drinking. Underage students. I've always thought, "Hmm, isn't there a possibility that pictures with underage students drinking could end up in the wrong hands?"

Like any self-respecting student and citizen, I am concerned with the invasion of any person's privacy. But Facebook pictures are public, not private. It actually takes effort to upload your pictures, tag your friends, write captions, and organize them into photo albums. I feel little sympathy for people who put these pictures with underage drinking on a public website, when nearly anyone with an e-mail address can access them, and then plead "invasion of privacy" when someone gets punished over them.

As I stated, I've never drank before, and I'm sure that if I had then any of you would think that I wouldn't feel the need to write this letter. But, I've always been disturbed with the correlation between college and drinking, and I feel the Facebook scandal points towards a deeper issue. There is a bar on campus, and I'm sure the logic behind that was so people who were legally allowed to drink could go to a place on campus and enjoy themselves without having to drive back home. I have no problem with that; it is very rational. But I am disturbed by the other people who seem to use college as an excuse to get wasted. I came to St. Joseph's because I thought it would be 'different,' a special place where I could meet a lot of other people who wanted to do something different with their college experience. People who didn't

just want to go to Indiana University or some big Illinois school, and wanted a smaller, more focused environment. But I must say, I've been disappointed to an extent because there are so many people here who just like to drink and party, missing every other class because they are hung-over. Don't get me wrong, there are a lot of great people here and not everyone drinks every Thursday night, but I just thought there would be more people here who came here to think, not drink. People who would care about their education enough to pay so much money for it and would take advantage of every possible opportunity, people who enjoy classes and enjoy learning. I'm not going to apologize for my passion for knowledge and I'm not going to hide behind any facetious labels such as 'nerd' or 'geek'. I know  
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Opinions

Opinions--you have them we need them. If you would like to voice your opinion, send a letter to the editor or become an *Observer* contributor. Contact the editorial board via our Saint Joe's email account.

[observer-editors@saintjoe.edu](mailto:observer-editors@saintjoe.edu)

Renssellucky Offers More than Disappointment

By Evan Counts, Staff Writer

"Renssellucky" is a term of endearment used affectionately by the students of Saint Joseph's College to refer to the town they reside in for over nine months out of the year.

Two major complaints that can be heard amongst many of the students at Saint Joe is that there is nothing to do in Rensselaer and that everything closes too early. It is not that the students of Saint Joe are contemptuous of Rensselaer its just that they find themselves in sheer boredom night after forlorn night.

Rensselaer, Indiana is a border line hamlet that offers little to no entertainment for the vivacious college students that make up a proportion of this dreary town for a good majority of the year. It seems that the entire town has, for lack of a more accurate word, a bed time that does not suite the lifestyle of the average college student. The lack of any real entertainment in the one horse, two bit town SJC's students call home may contribute to the students underage drinking habits. Not that there is not underage drinking at other campuses in larger towns but one cannot ignore the lack of ulterior ways students can spend their time. But alcohol is not the only

option.

After doing some looking into I found that there are many different things that the students can do. On campus there are a number of different IM teams that are looking for members. Also, the Hub can offer a fun environment in which one can play pool and listen to the jukebox.

Off campus, Rensselaer has a roller rink that is open until midnight on certain nights of the week. There is a theater that has many different show times, Rico's, which has an interactive trivia game is open until eleven o'clock, and of course the ever popular Grandma's truck stop that is a twenty-four hour haven to the night owl. So next time you find yourself with nothing to do keep the above listed suggestions in mind.

Unfortunately for the time being nothing in the town of Rensselaer is going to stay open any later to accommodate the students of Saint Joe. So for the time being the Lilliputians of Rensselaer hold the students of SJC in a metaphorical strangle hold of ennui.

“Why Celebrate Women’s History Month?”

By Elizabeth Genova, Opinion Editor

“You know what I can’t stand? Those feminazis that are always shoving the whole ‘women are better than men’ thing down my throat.” Any female who actively seeks out equality and awareness is often met with the offensive, and often incorrect phrase above. I am not here to preach or to make anyone feel uncomfortable, but I would like to raise awareness for the inequalities that still exist for women across the globe. Male or female, if you are irritated by the bombarding of information and posters during March, “Women’s History Month,” please take a couple minutes out to consider the following.

I was very fortunate recently to see *The Vagina Monologues* performed, and it was if anything reinforcing the idea that the struggle of women is not just for equal wages, but for survival in all too many cases. An estimated 135 million of the world's girls and women have undergone genital mutilation--mainly in African nations---and two million girls a year are at risk of mutilation - approximately 6,000 per day ([www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)). For those of you who are not aware what the procedure entails, part, if not all, of the clitoris is removed most commonly in girls between the ages of 4 to 8. This social custom, not to be confused with a religious practice, is not carried out in an operating room or with any sanitation standards. The young woman is forcibly held down with her legs open, while a midwife or older woman carries out the mutilation using broken glass, a tin lid, scissors, a razor blade or some other cutting instrument. The after effects include hemorrhaging, shock, benign tumors, extreme pain, constant urinary tract infections, kidney stones, sterility, and even death.

Thankfully, not all women are pushed into such life compromising positions, but their lives are still heavily influenced by gender issues. For every dollar earned by a white man, a white woman now earns \$.78, and the statistics offer worse hope for women in minorities. An African-American woman earns \$.67 for every \$1 a white man earns, and an Hispanic woman earns about half of the white man's average pay with only \$.56 ([www.womensmedia.com](http://www.womensmedia.com)). For any male readers who were

insulted by the propaganda of the women's right movement displayed in places like the cafeteria---I want you to reconsider.

Almost two thirds of the world's illiterate are women. In several Middle Eastern nations, women's education is not only discouraged but prohibited. Restrictions go further in places (i.e. Afghanistan under Taliban rule) where unescorted women who leave the house risk beatings or arrest.

Women are still denied rights in the United States such as being able to fight in the infantry in the armed forces. This may seem like a good thing, but countless women would willingly demonstrate their patriotism and devotion to their country in times of war on the battlefield if given the opportunity.

Domestic violence is the silent killer for women in every country. One out of every six women will be raped during her lifetime. Frightening but true. Take a close look at your female friends, and their friends, and the close connections to rape are startling. In 2001 alone, 588,490 women were victims of nonfatal domestic violence by a spouse or boyfriend. Women are 7 to 14 times more likely than men to suffer physical assaults from an intimate partner. The FBI reports that between 1976 and 1996, domestic violence claimed the lives of about 4 females a day on average.

The purpose of the Women's Movement is not to bash the patriarchal society that has pushed many women in the past into corners, but rather to make ammends and improvements... This state, town, and campus are no exceptions to the inequalities of men and women. As human beings, we have a responsibility to recognize injustices and act on them.

“Why do women have an entire month, then, if they are so equal to men? Isn't that saying they are better than men by giving them special recognition?” My response to this question would be to consider the differences that exist between genders and rights. I encourage everyone to participate not only in Women's History Month and Take Back the Night, but also the every day struggles to protect one half of the population from sufferings.

Participate in PWT’s Take Back The Night Uniting Against Domestic Violence

- Monday 3/27: Awareness
- Tuesday 3/28: Prevention and Protection
- Wednesday 3/29: Information and Resources
- Thursday 3/30: Prayer Vigil

\*Keep your eyes open for posters in the cafe and in Campus Ministry for specific events including speakers and a self-defense class.

Observer Staff

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Katie Grgic

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Joseph Larson

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E.V. Henning

Contributors

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What Some of You Missed February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006...

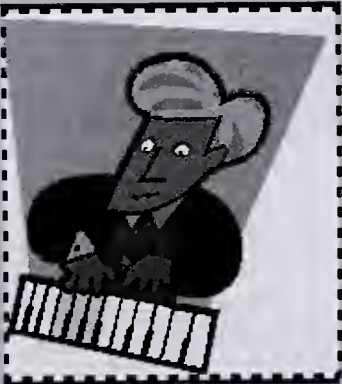
By Aimee Genova, Staff Writer

Opinion: Exposing oneself to different aspects of art is usually something favorable.

On this splendid date in Rensselaer's very own Cup O' Joe, Vince Everitt and Ryan Brake (Illinois/Michigan) played a rather smashing show. They volunteered their time to come out and rock without expecting a monetary reward.

Approximately twenty-five Pumas represented and listened to catchy tunes such as "Sober" and "Wonderfully Wrong." The atmosphere was fantastic because of great people, snacks/food, drinks, and music. Okay, so not every person fancies folk rock/acoustic/pop music. I personally have a preference for classical 1980s tunes and dance music; however, a switch in genres is always acceptable.

If you did not make it to the show that night, you did miss one extraordinary event: about six students gathered during a song



(Any keytair players available for shows?)

in a hugging circle. This was no ordinary circle—I suppose you just had to be there? I hope more events like this happen.

This school has some talent of its own to offer. After all, this school has bred famous names like Bill Murray, Michael Jackson, and Dean Keller (who sings like an angel I have heard). I challenge our very own students to put on similar shows in the great venues that St. Joseph's College has to offer—like Cup O' Joe.



# Reflections on “Lead ‘06: Discovering the Leader in You”

By Melissa Piskula, Staff Writer

On Friday, March 10th, Saint Joseph’s hosted the ““Lead ‘06: Rediscovering the Leader in You”” conference. This conference was a collaborative effort put together by St. Joseph’s College, Purdue University (North Central), Valparaiso University, Purdue University (Calumet), Indiana University (Northwest), Calumet College of St. Joseph, and Ivy Tech Community College.

These schools have been putting this event together for about a year, waiting for proper funding and looking for students who demonstrate and use their leadership skills effectively. Their goal is to make this conference an annual event. The conference was sponsored by Nipsco and the Post-Tribune. Each student selected received an invitation from Ernest Mills, President of Saint Joseph’s College.

Leslie Hielema, Director of The Center for Indiana Partnerships, explained, “The conference’s objective is to provide a forum for students who are in leadership roles today and

would like to become re-energized about their work, learn about their own leadership style and how other effective leaders lead successfully.”

Hielema continued, “This was the first collaborative effort, an opportunity for us to ‘perfect’ the model. We are giving our leaders a chance to network with others through group activities and during the luncheon. However, next time we are hoping to expand the conference to include more SJC students that are involved on campus, and holding it at a time when more students are able to attend.”

The conference featured eleven breakout sessions for the students to choose to attend. These sessions focused on topics such as: teamwork, staying healthy, diversity, finding inner strength, building a career, ethics and other topics that would be useful in developing leadership skills.

Junior Sarah Quartuccio explained, “We could only pick two out of the eleven breakout sessions that were being held. I

attended the ‘Find Your Leadership Strength on a Journey Down the Yellow Brick Road.’ This session was a fun one because we were all separated into the four main characters in The Wizard of Oz based on who we saw ourselves as most similar to in regards to leadership ability. I chose the Cowardly Lion because sometimes I am afraid of leading and the responsibilities that are behind it. After the session, I now can identify that my leadership strength is courage-the same thing that the Lion received from the Wizard, even though he had it in him all along.”

Junior Holly Herber shared, “I attended the session titled ‘Reclaiming the Passion, Living On Purpose.’ Denise Williams is a woman who has accomplished a lot through the years. Williams was very assertive, clear to the point. Williams was amazing. I gained a lot from that session with her.”

Junior Jordan Henley explained, “For me, this conference was an excellent way

to meet other leaders from neighboring colleges and to see how they were being role models on their campuses. Each person has a special niche, and I learned that it’s my responsibility to find how I can best help Saint Joseph’s and the students who attend here. This conference gave me a lot to think about in terms of who I am and what kind of leader I want to be.”

The conference featured two keynote speakers: Denise Dillard and Kevin Wanzer. Each had their own approach to the use of leadership skills. Denise Dillard is a Vice President at the Methodist Hospitals and she is the former founder and CEO of Workforce Development Services. Kevin Wanzer has been touring and speaking at schools since 1983, using his same successful message: “Got ALOHA?”

Sophomore Mike Buno explained, “The keynote speakers’ styles were definitely different. Dillard’s was motivational; she shared stories of inspiration as a motivator for

leadership. Wanzer’s style was more laid-back, but it’s obvious that he knows what he’s doing. Wanzer approached everything with the element of humor.”

Quartuccio added, “Dillard explained that leadership is a choice and a call to leadership comes from different sources. She said that it was also our choice to step up and take the call. You need not to only be prepared, but be involved.”

Hielema also added, “Dillard wanted the students to know that you don’t need to necessarily be selected to be a leader. You can be a leader on your own, lead for change and lead for better things for all. Wanzer approaches leadership through the eyes of a child. He explained how children are natural born leaders-they have an honest, pure outlook without any chance for bias.”

Herber stated, “It was awesome to have all those important people all in one place! In my opinion, the conference was definitely a success.”



Above: Ary Nelson, Joanna Askwith, Katie Grgic, Liz Wissel, Kara Marxer, and Amy Luksus pose before their 30 hour fast (Not pictured: Kaylee Hofmeister and Andrew Earnest). The group raised \$1100, enough money to feed three children for an entire year

## SJC Concert Choir to Tour St. Louis, MO

By Katie Grgic, Office of Publications and Media Relations Intern

On March 26-27, the SJC Concert Choir will travel to St. Louis, Missouri, where they will perform three times, once at Christ Church Cathedral; once at St. Louis University Chapel-St. Francis Xavier Church; and once at Rosati-Kain, a local high school. This is the first tour for the choir since a day-long trip to Muncie, Indiana, in November 2004 when they performed Carmina Burana with Ball State University’s Choral Union.

“I thought it was important to take the students on a tour. It is something that should be done with regularity,” said Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor of Music Todd Samra. “These are the things college memories should be made of. In the future, we are going to alternate touring years with the band. Down the line, we would

like to have a group of select singers and instrumentalists tour Europe.”

More than just an opportunity to make memories, the tour affords participating students the opportunity to learn and grow in a number of ways. “First, it’s a bonding experience; tours like this can bring people together. This can make them enjoy choir more, and sing and perform at higher levels,” Samra said. “It also gives us great performing opportunities before the spring concert, making the students feel more comfortable with the literature when the concert arrives. I also think that travel is a valuable endeavor for students this age. If I can help show them a small slice of life (including the incredible structures where we will perform), then I have added something to their collegiate

experience beyond the classroom.”

At Christ Church Cathedral, the choir will be singing Evensong, a reflective service consisting of readings and psalms, making the performance a liturgical service instead of a concert. “This is a regular liturgy at the parish, so it is a treat for them to have someone else come in and do the work, and their choir will be in full attendance listening,” Samra explained. The choir’s performance at St. Louis University Chapel-St. Francis Xavier Church will be divided into two parts. The first half will consist of five movements of Mozart’s Requiem, while the second half will feature secular music by Morten Lauridsen, Emma Lou Diemer, and Sergei Prokofiev.

## Students on Facebook, continued from p. 1

there are a lot of other people here who feel as strongly as I do about their education, but it’s unfortunate that instead of getting to know those people, I’m too busy writing letters about people who care more about intoxication than education. I want to have fun too, but I also want to come out of this experience with a funny little thing called an education. From what I’ve seen, people drink so they can just be stupid for the night. But I’ve always felt that if I have a choice, I’d rather do something productive, and work towards being smart. Wouldn’t you rather be smart than stupid? I don’t expect a lot of you to support my opinions of college drinking, but I just couldn’t sit back and watch people get so worked up over an alleged “invasion of privacy.”

Comments

By Matt LeClaire, Contributor

So I guess everyone liked the e-mail Blake and I sent concerning Kenneth’s blog and had a good laugh. Great. Grand. But I think the point was missed. The e-mail, was not meant as a way to disparage Kenneth directly, but as more of a necessary indirect vilification for a direct assault on the administration as a whole. It seems like every year something happens that leads to a substantial amount of student complaints and a trivial amount of student action. Everyone mutters about how we students have no say in what goes on at SJC, and how because it is a private college, the administration may do whatever it pleases. Well, this is partially correct. Many rights are waived

as soon as we step foot onto school grounds, and that cannot be helped. However, this should never mean that students have no input as to how this college operates. It is our college, and we can and should have a large voice in how it is conducted. “How?” someone may ask. Well, that is entirely up to the student body. Perhaps everyone remembers another e-mail that was sent out after the more infamous one. It contained a hyperlink to an SJC forum: <http://homer.saintjoe.edu/forums/index.php>

The forum was created for two reasons: one, so students would stop posting on Kenneth’s weblog, because that accomplishes nothing; and two, so everyone could express his or her opinion about what should be

done to counteract what I will dub the facebook fiasco. What can be done? Oddly enough, I am not suggesting rioting or revolution....well maybe a little revolution. But in any case, it is not up to me; it is up to us. There are already quite a few people talking on the forums about steps that could be taken to make sure a committee or some representation of the students is around to voice students’ concerns when something like the great couch scavenger hunt of 2004 happens. I am unsure as to whether this article will have the desired effect, but I urge every student to log on to the forums and voice an opinion. Independent grumbles will never make an impact on the actions of the enforcers, but a collective declaration has great potential. I mean, last time I

checked we paid to go here. Right?

On Wednesday, March 29th from 6:00-8:00 p.m., there will be an open forum to discuss security, internet privacy, alcohol privacy, and other student concerns. Dean Keller, Michele Gunkelman, Ernest Watson, the Area Directors, and Dr. Chattin will all be invited. The SA executive board will serve as moderators, and all SA members, RAs, and club presidents will have speaking power. Any students who attend who are not SA members, RAs, or club presidents may not speak unless given permission to do so, but they can share their concerns with their SA representatives or their RAs to bring to the forum. Further information will be provided at a later date concerning where the forum will be held.



# Teresa's Box of Indie Goodies

Teresa Moreno



The key to being a rock star is standing in front of a brick wall with bad lighting. Hiring an actual photographer is definitely out of the question. The woman in the picture is treating a glitter-related wound. (Photo courtesy of <http://www.ofmontreal.net/pubstills.html>)

## Of Montreal Proves that Glitter and Cross-Dressing do a Rock Star Make

It is always hard to know what to expect from a band in concert that you are just getting acquainted with. Seeing a band for the first time in concert breaks down that barrier; it's like shedding your clothes so that the world can see the real you, and in this instance, the band sheds the sound and appearance of a studio album. They are no longer hiding behind their cover art, but exposing the people that make the sounds we hear on the album. In Of Montreal's case, the moment they walked out on stage it was apparent that they are much too flashy and flamboyant to hide behind their polychromatic cover art choices.

On March 10, Of Montreal took the stage at Metro and it was there that everyone in the presence of lead singer Kevin Barnes knew they were in for an interesting show. Barnes first entered the stage wearing a wedding dress with a bottle of champagne in his hands. He greeted Chicago by screaming "Hello Chicago. I want to make love to you tonight, but I'm kind of old fashioned so we'll have to get married first. Will you marry me Chicago?" A resounding yes filled the room and one lucky girl in the front row was given a ring. This wouldn't be the first time Barnes would pull out the rocker card. Throughout the show, Barnes took sips of his champagne while he danced about on stage, letting the women in the crowd swoon over him. On stage he looked like an effeminate Mick Jagger: skinny,

very energetic, tons of glittery make-up and memorable costume changes that usually involved an article or two of women's clothing.

In addition to Barnes' stage presence, Dottie Alexander's presence was highly entertaining. As the keyboardist and multi-instrumentalist, Dottie did not have that many singing parts or solos, but her winning smile and great facial expressions made your eyes gravitate to her naturally. She looked as though she was having fun and her exuberance spread to the audience. Jamie Huggins, the drummer, was adorable as he played the drums and brought Barnes' stories to life.

As if the unusual clothing choices of the band were not enough to raise questions, Barnes' touching vignettes about his hippie mother, psychologist father, and old vaginas that don't produce fluid anymore were enough to drop anyone's mouth to the floor. For Of Montreal there was no hiding the kind of artists they were. They let it all out. These characteristics are what make seeing Of Montreal perform such an adventure. They were queer, confusing, funny, bizarre, and had the ability to make you feel happy about feeling awkward. Each of the band members had the ability to produce a truly unique show that had people thinking and feeling the most bizarre emotions for the rest of the night.

For more information please visit [www.ofmontreal.net](http://www.ofmontreal.net)

The musical Scorecard is used to give a numerical value to the quality of an album. A score of 10 is amazing, but a score of 1 would cause most listeners to cry out in pain. Five is an average score. The review does not express the opinion of *The Observer*.

Musical Scorecard:  
Originality: 9  
Lyrics: 7  
Lasting Appeal: 8  
Rock Star Quality: 8  
Total: 8/10

# Date Movie Gets Dumped, Cries itself to Sleep

By Katherine Stembel, Staff Writer

*Date Movie* was kind of like dessert after a big meal – you're not sure you want it, you'd have to force it down and throw up later, but you eat it anyway. I liked *Scary Movie* well enough, so I figured *Date Movie* couldn't be any worse. Well, everyone else may want a happy ending, but I just want my seventeen bucks back.

Alyson Hannigan stars as Julia Jones, a portly woman looking for romance. She discovers love at first sight with Grant Funkyerdoder (Adam Campbell) while waitressing in her family's Greek restaurant. In order to be with Grant, she must employ a dwarf Hitch, escape her father's scheming, conquer a jealous ex-fiancé, and meet the Funkyerdoder family. Any of this sounding familiar? It should, that's kind of the point.

The flick parodies elements from countless romance movies such as *Meet the Fockers*, *The Wedding Planner*, *Bridget Jones's*

For people who LOVE date movies and people who HATE them.

## DATE MOVIE

Everyone wants a happy ending.



*Date Movie* is not entertaining, so you'll have to find other ways to amuse yourself in the theater. These used tissues suggest one possible method. (Photo courtesy of <http://movies.yahoo.com/shop?d=hv&id=1808725759&cf=pg&photoid=599625&intl=us>)

*Diary*, *My Best Friend's Wedding*, and even films like *Kill Bill*. There's also an impersonated cameo by Napoleon Dynamite.

However, in spite of so much useful material, I felt a bit like Alyson Hannigan woke up one day and said, "Today I think I'll

get my character actor buddies together and make a film like *Scary Movie*, except about love!" Very little thought went into *Date Movie*. While *Scary Movie* used hilarious satirizations of other horror flicks to compliment its plot, *Date Movie* spoofed, scene by scene and sometimes direct quote by direct quote, numerous romances and romantic comedies.

Perhaps my expectations are too high, but I don't think so. The movie just felt forced. Don't get me wrong, some of it was funny, but most of it was tired and boring.

Rent *Date Movie* when it comes out on DVD, steal it from some back alley

Internet site, or buy it in several years from the five-dollar bin at Wal-Mart. Save your money now. Buy a book, or, in most of your cases, some beer.

## Oddparents Still Brings Magic

By BJ Houlding, Staff Writer

Did you have a rough childhood? Were you beaten like a redheaded stepchild? Were you a redheaded stepchild? I'm sorry. We have a counselor for that you know. Anyway, an oppressive childhood is the premise for Nickelodeon's hit show "The Fairly Oddparents." While regularly being forced into child slavery by his baby-sitter Vicky, Timmy Turner receives the assistance of Cosmo and Wanda, two Fairy Godparents. From that day forward he is able to wish for whatever he wants, usually with comedic but slightly moralizing results.

The show was created by Butch Harmon as a short segment in 1998 for Nickelodeon's "Oh Yeah! Cartoons." "Oh Yeah! Cartoons" was cancelled in 2001, but Nickelodeon offered to make "The Fairly Oddparents" a full-time show. In five years, the network has aired 76 episodes, five made-for-TV movies, and three cross-over movies with "Jimmy Neutron." Butch Harmon announced in January of this year that the show was ending.

The show is full of colorful characters. Denzel Crocker is a psychotic teacher at Timmy's



Every young boy dreams of owning a set of magic pencils that can do math with fifty percent accuracy, twenty points above the minimum passing score at most public grade schools. (Photo courtesy of [http://mag.awn.com/issue9.03/9.03images/system02\\_fairlyOddParents-p.jpg](http://mag.awn.com/issue9.03/9.03images/system02_fairlyOddParents-p.jpg))

elementary school who is convinced fairies exist. Of course, nobody believes him. The general consensus is that Denzel is nuttier than Jack Chick with a walnut tree. Jorgon Von Strangle is the head fairy, a thinly veiled Arnold Schwarzenegger with fewer steroids. The show is no stranger to kooky guest stars either. Chip Skylark, voiced by Justin Timberlake, is a music star

only slightly less effeminate than Timberlake himself. And the ever-splendiferous Adam West plays superhero "Catman."

The show is a fun conglomeration of adult humor and kiddy moral concepts. A permanent number two to Spongebob Squarepants on Nickelodeon, the show is still legendarily entertaining. It earns a quality 4 out of 5 smurfs.





# FEATURES

## A Guide to Winning the First Date, Securing the Second One

By Joe Larson, *Co-Editor in Chief*

For a time, Adam lived alone in the Garden of Eden. He was happy with bachelorhood and the time it afforded him to crash golf carts and hurl beer cans at small animals, but a question soon lurked in the back of his mind. “God,” Adam finally asked, “since there are no women in the world, will people think I’m gay?” To dispel Adam’s raging insecurities, God created women and instilled in every man the desire to be nagged and made miserable in exchange for occasional sexual favors and perpetual inspiration for bad driving jokes. To preserve peace between the genders, God then established a complicated courtship ritual centered on an elaborate first date and guided by a 10,000 page instruction manual. Unfortunately, most of this manual has been lost, but in its place I now offer a shoddily-written 1,500 word article whose advice on successful dating can only be the product of divine inspiration and a serious Vicodin addiction.

The importance of the courtship ritual, and especially of the first date, cannot be overemphasized. Every man must follow this ritual or face extinction and humiliation in the eyes of his fellow man. Even Adam attempted to woo Eve with a first date before he discovered that it was quicker to just use a Taser, a tool whose usefulness in dating is highly underrated. For the purposes of this article, the goal of a successful first date is securing a second date, not physical gratification. Despite locker room claims to the contrary, bragging about sleeping with a girl on the first date is like bragging about scuba diving in the septic tank at an AIDS clinic, both of which are courageously foolish acts that permanently eliminate your eligibility as a blood donor. If your only goal is gratification with the aim of

propagation, then I recommend sperm banks and sweet sixteen parties as the most effective venues for spreading your wild oats and other parts of a balanced breakfast. For those of you trying to keep your number of bastard children to a minimum, however, I humbly submit the definitive guide for a perfect first date.

The way you dress is without question the most important part of the dating ritual. Although most traditionalists will disagree with me, I recommend wearing clothes, the benefits of which are too numerous to name in their entirety. Several studies suggest that clothing functions as an effective barrier against the cold and provides its user with numerous pockets in which to store objects like wallets and drug paraphernalia. Also, clothes block harmful UV rays, thereby preventing cancer, and provide parts of the body with a much-needed layer of protection should you take your date to a ball bearing factory or similar site where a certain appendage could accidentally fall victim to the unforgiving gears of heavy industry. Nothing ends a first date quicker than a groin-related industrial accident. Trust me. The only drawback of clothing is that it can accent your manly good looks to such a degree that you make your date feel ugly by comparison. To prevent this, I usually wear a shirt that hasn’t been washed in three weeks and is possibly on fire. Any comments your date makes about the cleanliness or flammability of your attire are undeniable proof that she is intimidated by your sense of style.

Such manly attire will undoubtedly help you start the date out on the right foot, but you’ll still have to handle yourself well at her door. At the beginning of the date, ring her doorbell and wait patiently for a

moment or two. Then start screaming and breaking windows. When she finally answers the door, the gentlemanly thing do is to compliment her appearance and then frisk her for bombs. In this age of terrorism, you can never be too safe. For a moment, your brain might tell you that you are doing something immoral, but that’s probably just because you hate freedom. If you fail to check her for explosives simply because she’s not an Arabic man with an intense hatred for America, she could sue you for racial profiling. The civil rights movement has come way too far for you to bail out just because you feel bad about groping some woman you barely know. Unless you yourself are a terrorist, you will search her body cavities in the name of national security. This is most effective if done in front of her parents so they can see what an upstanding young citizen you are.

No matter how strong your patriotism may be, you’ll still have to be good at making small talk on the car ride to the restaurant if you want to have any hope of securing a second date. Using this time to spout off lines like “you’re pretty” and “you smell good” is the biggest copout of all time because there’s no standard for comparison. Women like order, so you’ll need to make a series of snap judgments in order to classify her in comparison to everything else in your life. Statements like “You’re prettier than my 27-inch TV but less functional than my double-ply toilet paper” will let her know exactly where she stands before you even make it to the restaurant. For further elucidation, feel free to add “my mom’s boobs are bigger than yours” and “you kind of remind me of a walrus” to let her know just what associations your brain makes when you look in her

direction. Be sure to clarify that your walrus comment only refers to her oversized, tusk-like teeth, not her aquatic-mammal-like girth. Women love to be objectified, so the clearer you can make the explanation, the better.

You should finish making these comparisons just about the time you arrive at the restaurant. Modern women don’t want you to hold the door open or pick up the bill. To give her a chance to demonstrate her independence, you should probably block the restaurant door with your foot or a large pile of bricks. Laugh as she struggles to open the thing, and then calmly enter through a side door and order your food. Since your modern lady friend will undoubtedly be paying for the meal, try to be considerate of the price of your food. For example, lobsters are expensive, so don’t order more than a baker’s dozen of them. Make no mistake: it will take you a while to work your way through those lobsters, so you better settle in for a drawn-out discussion. Conversation over dinner is still the ultimate determinant as to whether or not you’ll secure a second date. As a modern woman, your date probably has many gifts and talents, but one of those talents is not the ability to shut the hell up. You’ll need to help her develop this skill by plugging your ears or punching her in the throat – whichever seems more convenient at the time. Talk about yourself the whole night. She’s not going to know how great you are unless you tell her. Feel free to bring a few graphs and pie charts to stress the point. Be sure to talk about that time you and your friends convinced a group of high schoolers to drop out of school and smoke pot. Some might call it peer pressure. You call it leadership.

By this point, it’s likely that she’s recovered from your well-

timed throat punch. Now you’ll need to give the illusion of caring about what she says, so every few minutes, accuse her of being a lying whore. If what she’s saying is too boring for even this solution, try bringing up politics. As a woman, she invariably votes for whichever candidate most closely resembles one of the Care Bears, so you’re going to have a lot of common ground in this area. Eventually you’ll need to move on to religion. Explain that while you believe in God, you don’t believe in going to church or bathing. It’s a hard position to argue against, but if she tries, just threaten to move within odor range of her and the matter will be settled.

After such an exhilarating conversation, your date will almost certainly be tired and ask you to take her home. This is a sign of a job well done because most ordinary women are only going to be able to handle small doses of your greatness at a time. You’ll want to have something of value on hand in the event that you date doesn’t bring hundreds of dollars to cover your obsessive lobster habit. It is important to note that beaver pelts are no longer an acceptable form of payment. Neither are losing lottery tickets, used syringes, and small rocks you found in the parking lot. You will need to use the king’s currency, although I’m told that some food vendors still accept gold bullion. If she doesn’t pay for dinner, the only classy thing to do is make her walk home. For safety reasons, you should probably follow her in your car, honking encouragingly as she struggles to make the fifteen mile hike back to her house in high heels. It may not have been the perfect date, but at least you taught someone a thing or two about dinner etiquette, and you even learned a few things yourself. Next time, you’ll just use the Taser.

## Sugary Manga Comes to America, Impresses Readers

By Melissa Alba, *Staff Writer*

I am willing to bet that you, dear reader, are not familiar with the fact that manga comics hold more importance in Japanese culture than comics do in American culture. Respected both as an art form and as a form of popular literature, manga has still not reached the same level of acceptance as “higher” art genres like film or music. By now, you’re probably wondering why I’m going on about this word “manga.” The reason is that I decided to review an entire manga series instead of a book. Let me not digress any further. I was quite ecstatic to find this manga series called “Fruits Basket,” or “Furuba” as it is affectionately known to its fans, among whom I now count myself.

The first volume contains the first six chapters of this touching and humorous story, which was also the basis for an anime television series. Author Natsuki

Takaya sets the stage with this volume. The story concerns a newly orphaned girl who stumbles upon a strange secret of her adopted family, the Sohmas. It seems that each of the family members, when hugged by the opposite sex, turns into their respective Chinese zodiac sign. As Tohru-chan continues to live with the Sohmas, she searches for a way to end this curse that has taken over the lives of her new friends.

Takaya-sensei does a wonderful job of capturing the tough life of main character Honda Tohru while giving her a positive attitude and a nature that allows her to look out for others rather than focusing on her own problems. The author depicts her as naively cute, compassionate, humorous, and sometimes wise. The other characters are also just as memorable and fun. Takaya-sensei has remarks scattered throughout the volume. Some of

these remarks are added as side-bars and some can be found at the beginning of new chapters. I found these to be a delight to read as it gave me more of an insight into the manga-ka’s life. Finally, I give kudos to the translators, Alethea and Athena Nibley, who were hired by TokyoPop specifically for “Fruits Basket.” They have performed their job admirably. All of the Japanese honorifics survived, which help in thoroughly giving the reader a thorough understanding of the characters. TokyoPop did an excellent job of bringing the series to America for which I feel I should praise them.

Bottom line: if you love anime like InuYasha and Card Captor Sakura, you will also love this one. Granted some people will find the sugary nature of the manga too sweet for their tastes, but most will enjoy it.

## Avoid Comedians Who Can’t Tell Jokes

By Kathryn Steiner, *Staff Writer*

With appearances on BET, Comedy Central, the popular HBO show *Sex and the City*, and *The Late, Late Show*, who would have thought that Vince Morris’s comedy routine at Saint Joseph’s would have been such a dud? Touching on topics such as people’s ignorance of proper grammar use in everyday language, the bad messages in rap lyrics, and how women degrade themselves in rap music videos, he had an overall positive message. However, his material was not funny! His jokes missed punch lines, and he often left jokes unfinished. In addition, there were awkward moments of silence when he ran out of material. The highlights of the comedy routine were provided by audience members who were forced to come up with their own form of entertainment. When asked about types of crimes that

occur on campus, the audience blurted out comments on the broken window at the entrance of the Halleck Center, a certain incident that happened on the discus circle, and the speaker that came to warn about engaging in casual activities on the discus circle. While the audience supplied Vince Morris with a plethora of material and laughs (including Wal-Mart as a popular hang out at least until 10:00 pm), they did not get many laughs in return. If I could give any advice to Saint Joseph’s about choosing future comedians, I would recommend that they allow comedians to excessively swear, tell dirty jokes, and crack on whomever they wish because that, my friend, is funny. As for Vince Morris, as one member of the audience recommended, he should learn how to “tell a joke.”



[illegible]



## Fantasy Baseball Fiasco

By Elizabeth Klocek, *Columnist*

It's spring, and though the weather does not seem to know what that means, I do. Baseball. Baseball season has returned, both here on campus and around the world. Though perhaps the U.S. team did not get that message at the World Baseball Classic (they lost). And with the return of baseball comes Fantasy Baseball, the latest arena in which I am privileged to make a fool of myself.

I will admit now, after much reflection and consideration, that my Fantasy Football performance could indeed



have been a fluke, the right players at the right time, etc. But I at least understood, to some degree what was occurring within my league and my own team. It seems Fantasy Baseball is slightly more complex. Slightly is an understatement. Apparently there is more than one way to play Fantasy Baseball, and I, moron that I am, will be in two leagues that operate under completely different rules.

As you read this now, one of my teams will be complete, we are doing a live draft, which really means nothing to me, since I am the only poor sap who still goes to school and I have class. And even if I were not fortunate enough to be receiving a quality education instead of staring at a computer screen blankly for hours, I draft third to last, which means I will see all the players I want or need disappear before my very eyes and be left with nothing but players I cannot stand or the dregs of the baseball pool. So instead I pre-ranked, well, sort of. I pre-ranked three players, mainly because I don't know what I am doing or what kind of players I need. My original plan of picking players I liked was shot down. I have been made to understand that

though they may be good, and I may wish to date them (not necessarily in that order), being ranked 130 out of 500 is not ideal. I also earmarked at least one for complete and utter rejection, I cannot help that I dislike him to the point that it would be a pain to me to have him on my imaginary team even if it meant certain victory. From day one I have said my biases are bizarre and irrational, there is no point changing now.

I think what it all really comes down to, is that I nearly failed sixth grade math.

That may or

may not make sense, but the heart of the matter is that I am bad at math, so tossing out terms like ERA, RBI, TB, BB, SO, SB, CS, OBP, SLG, etc. is not going to make the Fantasy experience entirely pleasurable. I have no idea what half of those acronyms stand for let alone the importance of the numbers themselves, and I don't have the time or the energy to learn (school is clearly a hindrance on several levels). Also, I have been told there is something called WHIPs or whips (I'm not really sure) involved in Fantasy Baseball, and while I easily identified what the letters stood for (Walks, Hits, Innings Pitched), I am not sure what it translates into or why people spend their time trying to figure it out.

I will keep the reading masses of SJC posted on my success or lack thereof as the season kicks off. Opening Night is April 2, 2006 and Opening Day is April 3, 2006.

\* I just discovered on MLB.com a "Baseball Basics: Abbreviations" section that explains all of the above acronyms and abbreviations and many more, if anyone besides myself is curious.

## FANTASY BASEBALL



## Two Teams, One Mission

By Chase Sonen, *Staff Writer*

The Saint Joseph College baseball and softball teams have begun 2006 on the right foot, as both have had early success this season. The baseball team used a 5-2 record over Spring Break to vault itself to number seventeen in the national rankings, while the softball team continues to prove last season was no fluke by going 9-3 over the break. The most exciting thing about this season is that both teams are fueled by the amazing season the basketball team just completed. By reaching number two in the nation the basketball team proved that even though SJC is smaller than 95% of the schools out there, it can compete and more importantly defeat anyone.

Baseball being ranked is nothing new since they were ranked much of last season, and like basketball, has hosted a regional. The emergence of the Lady Puma softball team is another story however. Last season they shocked everyone by having their first winning season in school history. This year's team is already on pace to destroy that record, and like the baseball team, could end up in the rankings some time soon.

Not only are the Lady Pumas good, but more importantly they are young; with many key players being underclassman. Ashley Emmett (sophomore) batted .500 for the Pumas while Jesse Privett (sophomore) hit .464 with thirteen runs batted in, including a homerun. Stephanie Madsen (freshman) hit .423 on the trip while stealing ten bases and

scoring nine runs. Sara Somogyi (freshman) went 4-1 pitching over the trip, recording fifty strikeouts in only thirty-four innings. Ashley Heatwole (senior) also went 3-2 for the week, while Privett was 2-0.

The baseball team went back to Florida this year with something to prove after going 1-7 the year before. Danny Flore (senior) batted a team-high .429 for the week while scoring seven times and swiping six bases. Tony Cunningham (senior) and Kevin Diete (junior) both drove in four runs over the weekend, tying for the team lead in that category. Mike Victor (senior) also set a school record while in Florida by hitting his fiftieth double of his Puma career, putting him alone in first place in the Saint Joseph's College record books.

Mike Stawski (senior) and Eric Fussell (senior) both went 2-0 in Florida, as they paced the pitching staff. Stawski allowed just five hits and no runs in his twelve innings of work, while Fussell allowed only one run while striking out eleven in thirteen innings. Chase Sonen (sophomore) got the win in Saturday's eleven inning marathon with Northern Kentucky.

It appears SJC is once again going to have a chance at a magical season for both baseball and softball. But don't take my word for it; go see for your self...you might just be watching history.



Photo courtesy of Dan Flores

The Sports Editors Would Like to Congratulate all Members of the Track Team who Qualified for Nationals!

# It's a Great Day to be a Puma!



## Jamie Cullum: Jazz Sensation

By Danny Waclaw, *Omega* Editor

British piano virtuoso Jamie Cullum isn't exactly just jazz. He's not pop, either. Jamie Cullum is, in effect, what Jamie Cullum does.

With a blend of contemporary sensibility, dirty jazz improvisation, and that hallmark British wit, Cullum has managed to become one of the great voices of the twentysomething generation today.

His first widely-released album in the US, *Twentysomething*, tells the tale of the transient youth of today, stuck between the idyllic, middle-class, collegiate academic and the pleasures that we hate to live with, but would rather not do without.

On the album, it is apparent that Cullum



Jazz sensation Jamie Cullum.  
Courtesy of  
[www.brucecmoore.com](http://www.brucecmoore.com)

doesn't limit himself to labels. From original piano pieces like "Twentysomething" to a funkified version of Bob Marley's "Wind Cries Mary," Cullum defies the limits of traditional musical categorization while unifying all his

music with emotionally-infused piano riffs and vocals that suggest a sense of humor behind any set of lyrics.

On his latest album, *Catching Tales*, Cullum brings a jam-session feel to his material, as in the first track "Get Your Way," which almost takes the form of a reggae song with urban influences. This is not to outdo "Nothing I Do," which tells the tale of the drunken lovers' quarrel—in essence, the tale of twenty-first century twentysomethings.

Jamie Cullum, then, is not just for the jazz snobs and the coffehouse bohemians. You're a twentysomething. After all, "who knows the answers? Who do you trust. I can't even separate love from lust..."

## Out and About

### Mancini Memories

- What? *A Pops concert with the Lafayette Symphony Orchestra on the work of Henry Mancini.*
- When? 8 PM on Saturday, April 8, 2006.
- Where? *The Long Center at 111 N. Sixth St. in Lafayette, IN.*
- Call (765) 742-6463 to reserve tickets.

### Chicago Gold

- What? *The Buckingham, the Ides of March, and the Cryin' Shames perform old favorites.*
- When? 7:30 PM on April 15, 2006.
- Where? *Star Plaza Theater at 8001 Delaware Place in Merrillville, IN*
- Tickets are \$26 from [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

## Overheard

Hear something absurd or ridiculous lately? Want to embarrass your friends? Well, all randomly heard comments are anonymous, but feel free to e-mail what you have overheard to your Omega editors at [dwj5079@saintjoe.edu](mailto:dwj5079@saintjoe.edu).

No one can beat the Jesuits. They're the Pope's assassins.

~

Darth Vader could kill Jesus.

~

Would I fit in in the 1950s? No, I'd be labeled a Bohemian and burned at the stake.

~

That's when I started doing drugs.

~

When John Cage died, I smoked a joint.

~

You are the derivative of acceleration.

~

Get your bean blossoms out of my face!

~

I had lunch with the drummer from the band whose song I'm going to perform next, and he really likes how I play it. So, to all you naysayers out there, I guess this is just my way of saying, "Saw it off."

~

I can't believe that you spelled "flipping" flippin'! You're, like, I don't know, like, totally awesome, like, yah!

~

It's not just a smoothie. It's not just a booster. It's a smooter!

~

I don't make fun of your two-bit bands.

~

Beerocracy: government by brewers or brewing interests.

~

Whatever happened to proofreading?

~

She's the manliest woman I know.

~

It's best with lots of butter.

~

Slainte!

~

Spring break comes but once a year.

## A Special Thank You

Thanks to everyone who donated books and time in order to make the Measure Book Sale a success!



### Fountain Stone Theaters

Movies for Jan 27 - Feb 2  
(219) 866-2222

[www.fountainstonetheaters.com](http://www.fountainstonetheaters.com)

#### Shaggy Dog

Fri: 5:00, 6:50, 8:40 (PG)  
Sat: 3:10, 5:00, 6:50, 8:40  
Sun: 3:10, 5:00, 6:50  
Mon-Th: 5:00, 6:50

#### V for Vendetta

Fri: 4:50, 7:15 (R)  
Sat: 4:50, 7:15  
Sun: 4:50, 7:15  
Mon-Th: 4:50, 7:15

#### She's the Man

Fri: 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 (PG)  
Sat: 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00  
Sun: 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00  
Mon-Th: 5:00, 7:00

#### When a Stranger Calls

Fri: 5:10, 9:10 (PG-13)  
Sat: 5:10, 9:10  
Sun: 5:10  
Mon-Th: 5:10

#### 16 Blocks

Fri: 5:10, 7:20, 9:10 (PG-13)  
Sat: 3:20, 5:10, 7:20, 9:10  
Sun: 3:20, 5:10, 7:20, 9:10  
Mon-Th: 5:10, 7:20

#### Failure to Launch

Fri: 5:20, 7:10, 9:00 (PG-13)  
Sat: 3:30, 5:20, 7:10, 9:00  
Sun: 3:30, 5:20, 7:10, 9:00  
Mon-Th: 5:20, 7:10

## What's Your Sign?

Divined by our own Auntie Cleo



### Pisces (Feb 18-Mar 20)

Has life been like a rollercoaster lately? Get away from things that are bringing you down. Take some time for yourself and treat yourself to something you have been craving—you deserve it!

### Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19)

Is someone coming down with a case of cabin fever? It is time to leave your dorm room and have some fun. Do not worry about homework right now; it will get done, you overachiever. Learn to find an equal balance between work and play.

### Taurus (Apr 20-May 19)

Although double-fisting may seem like a good idea, you may end up regretting your actions in the long run. We all have our own weaknesses; do not let harsh words from others bring you down. Learn to find happiness in who you are.

### Gemini (May 20-Jun 20)

The world is surrounded with people you may not always like. Beware of what you say about others because it may end up biting you in the bottom. Learn to kill others with kindness, and if you have something to say about someone, say it to his face.

### Cancer (Jun 21-Jul 21)

You are the life of the party! Is there anyone who does not want to be around you? Between your hilarious stories and great sense of humor, people cannot get enough. Do not sweat the little things; all of your herd work will be worth it before you know it.

### Leo (Jul 22-Aug 22)

You have the fire and desire to do whatever you want right now. Be brave and bold; follow your instincts and do what you have been contemplating. If you hesitate now, you will always wonder what could have been.

### Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 21)

Something has been bothering you lately, but you cannot seem to put your finger on it. Take some time to yourself and reflect on what is causing this tension within your life. Schedule some time for your pals; they miss you.

### Libra (Sept 22-Oct 22)

Have you recently lost contact with a good friend? It is obvious you miss this friendship. It is time to pick up the phone or send a text telling them how you feel. Remember true friends stick together and will outlast your boyfriend or girlfriend.

### Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21)

Funds may be a bit low; it is time to get creative with your extracurricular activities. Make sure to eat all of your veggies and take your vitamins; a cold could come your way. It is time to play the field—you have become the hottest thing since sliced bread!

### Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 20)

You have been full of jokes lately; keep the laughter coming funny one. Everyone loves to be around your hilarious personality because there is never a dull moment with you. Make sure to keep your room extra tidy; your parents might make a surprise visit.

### Capricorn (Dec 21-Jan 19)

Shall we call you Martha? You have been super crafty lately. Everyone who has a problem seems to be seeking your advice, Dr. Love. If you and a friend have been in a disagreement, get over it because life is too short!

### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 17)

Stop being so gullible; the world is not always filled with sunshine and smiley faces. Just remember it is the hard times that make you appreciate the good. Watch your recent texting habits on your cell and your spending at the HUB—bills are piling up.